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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 10, 1986

(Month of September, 1986)

Contact: David L. Yowell
or Sally Shank
(918) 493-3516

MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during September by only one crew. The land crew total decreased by six, and the marine crew total increased by five for a net decrease of one crew. The Crew Count reached its all-time high in September, 1981 with 744 crews working. Five years later (September, 1986) there are 589 fewer crews in operation.

The September total (155) represents a decrease of 1% from last month, a 58% decrease from September, 1985, a 70% decrease from September, 1984, a 69% decrease from September, 1983, a 71% decrease from September, 1982, a 79% decrease from September, 1981, and a decrease of 73% from the same month in 1980.

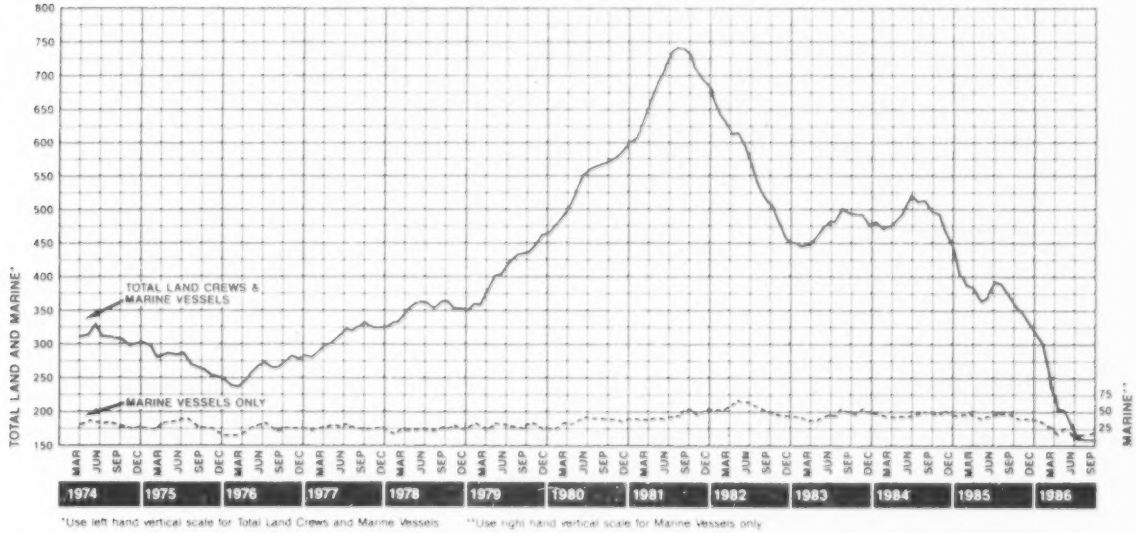
During September, four contractors were operating four of the 114 land crews and one of the twenty vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Sept'85	Sept'84	Sept'83	Sept'82	Sept'81	Sept'80
	155	156	372	524	501	535	744	567

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1985	Sept 1984	Sept 1983	Sept 1982	Sept 1981	Sept 1980	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1985	Sept 1984	Sept 1983	Sept 1982	Sept 1981	Sept 1980
43 Contr's:	114	120	290	435	405	434	654	484	20	16	43	44	49	50	40	36
7 Oil Co's:	17	17	33	37	39	42	43	39	4	3	6	7	7	8	6	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	131	137	323	472	444	476	697	523	24	19	49	52	57	59	47	44

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



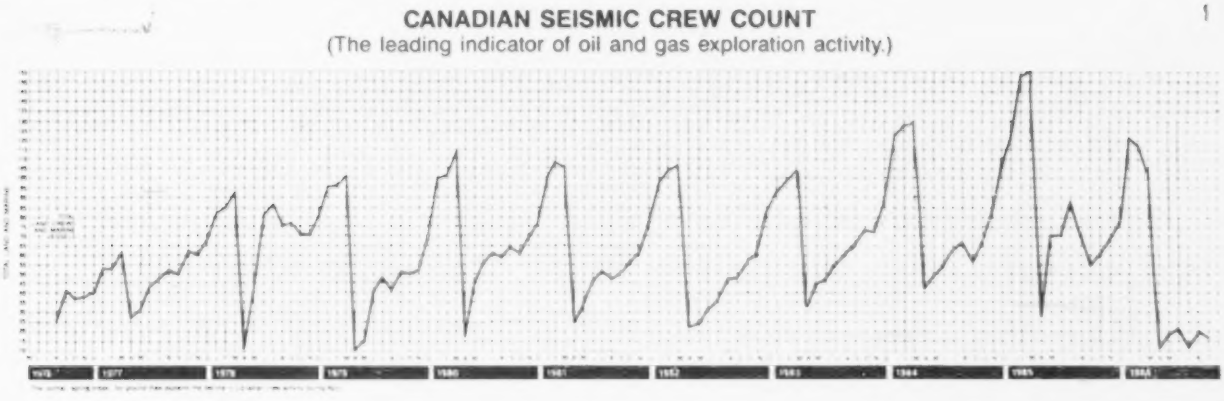
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

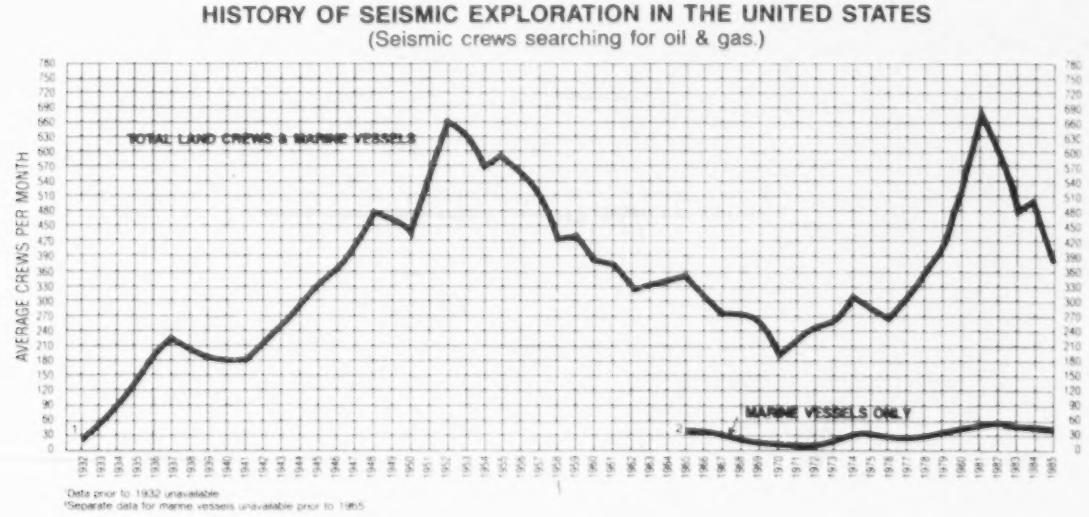
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

September, 1986 (August figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
11 Contractors:	16 (17)	1 (2)
0 Oil Companies:	0 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	16 (18)	1 (2)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)
AVERAGE CREWS PER MONTH
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1955